

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04323 311159Z
ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 /016 W
-----023029 311200Z /53
P 311112Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8983

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 4323

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, AEMR, LE
SUBJECT: CONTINGENCY GUARANTEE OF INSURANCE TO MEA CHARTERED
AIRCRAFT

REF: (A) STATE 190957, (B) BEIRUT 4246

1. APPRECIATE INFO REFTEL. ECONOFF CONTACTED ASAD NASR WHO CONFIRMED SUBSTANCE PARA (2) REF (A) RE ICRC MARKINGS. ASAD NASR NOTED THAT GENERAL WAR SITUATION, REGARDLESS OF AIRCRAFT MARKINGS, ALSO AFFECTS INSURANCE. FOR EXAMPLE, IN 1976 AFTER MEA LOST ONE AIRCRAFT TO ROCKET, LLOYD'S CANCELLED INSURANCE ON ENTIRE FLEET FOR BEIRUT OPERATIONS. IN RESPONSE TO SUBSEQUENT EMBASSY INQUIRY RE EMERGENCY EVAC, MEA HAD SOUTHT AD-HOC INSURANCE AND RECEIVED EXORBITANT QUOTE FROM LLOYDS OF SEVERAL HUNDRED DOLLARS PER PASSENGER. THIS IS THE PROSPECT MEA WOULD BE ADDRESSING IN PRESENT INSTANCE, IRRESPECTIVE OF MARKINGS.

2. PROBLEM BOILS DOWN TO FOLLOWING: EITHER (A) MEA IS NORMALLY INSURED BY LLOYDS IN WHICH CASE NO USG LETTER IS REQUIRED, OR (B) LLOYDS SUSPENDS NORMAL INSURANCE, IN WHICH CASE USG MAY ELECT EITHER TO ACCEPT COSTS OF A SPECIAL INSURANCE POLICY FOR CHARTER FLIGHT(S) OR TO PROVIDE MEA A LETTER OF GUARANTEE IN LIEU OF SPECIAL POLICY. EITHER FORM OF INSURANCE IS ACCEPTABLE TO MEA.

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3. MEA'S INSURANCE STATUS AT PRESENT IS NORMAL, CASE (A) ABOVE. SO LONG AS THIS CONDITION HOLDS, NO USG LETTER NEEDED. SHOULD CONDITIONS CHANGE TO (B) ABOVE, EMBASSY WILL FACE THE PREMIUM/LETTER CHOICE. WE NOT IN POSITION TO JUDGE LEGAL MERITS OF THE CHOICE, BUT WE ACCEPT AS COMMON SENSE THAT MEA UNWILLING OPERATE UNINSURED.

4. IN SUM, PROBLEM AT HAND IS NOT ICRC MARKINGS BUT HOW
TO FURNISH SUBSTITUTE INSURANCE WHEN NORMAL COVERAGE HAS
BEEN SUSPENDED. REQUEST DEPARTMENT CONSIDER AND ADVISE.
WITHOUT KNOWING POTENTIAL SPECIAL POLICY COSTS, WE
FAVOR HAVING ON HAND AUTHORIZED TEXT FOR LETTER OF
GUARANTEE.
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSURANCE, AIRCRAFT, CONTINGENCY PLANNING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978071/aaaaaakc.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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